

# To the Holy Spirit

O Thou far off and near, whole and broken, Who in necessity and bounty wait, Whose truth is light and dark, mute though spoken, By Thy wide grace show me Thy narrow gate

# $\sim$ Wendel Berry

3rd Sunday of Pentecost, June 2, 2024 Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago cover watercolor by Jamie Gray

# Welcome to Covenant

Children's programming is available during both services on the lower level, see page 14 for details. Large Print orders of worship and devices to improve hearing are available in the back of the sanctuary.

**WELCOME** 

Larissa Bossemeyer

Prepare for worship

Ephesians 4:1-6

Dear God, we gather in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as we were called to the one hope that belongs to our call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.



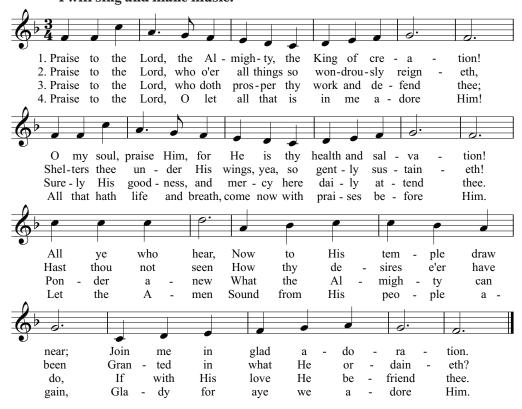
Ephesians 4, music by Steve Williamson, Church of the Resurrection, Wheaton, 2011

GOD GATHERS US TO WORSHIP **CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 63

Leader: I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

Your love is better than life.

All: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth. My heart is steadfast, O God, I will sing and make music.



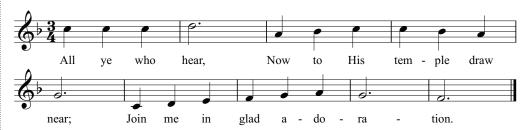
Praise to the Lord, Words: Joachim Neander, 1680. Music: Erneuerten Gesangbuch, 1665

4

#### PRAYER OF ADORATION & INVOCATION

Silent moment of adoration

O God and Father, almighty King of creation, as we gather here in your sanctuary we behold your power and your glory manifest in Word and Sacrament. Your love is better than life.



Leader: God of all creation, you promised to be with us as we gather.

# All: Come Holy Spirit and visit us with you presence today. Amen.

Choral: Spirit of the living God, visit us with your presence this day.

Like a mighty wind, sweep all barriers away.

With tounges of fire, set our hearts aflame.

Spirit of the living God, visit us with your presence this day.



Leader: And Jesus said: "Come to me, all who are weary and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

# All: Gracious God,

we are weary and our sins and anxieties are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name,

and our tendency to find rest in anything but your mercy and grace.

Grant us rest for our souls.

know,

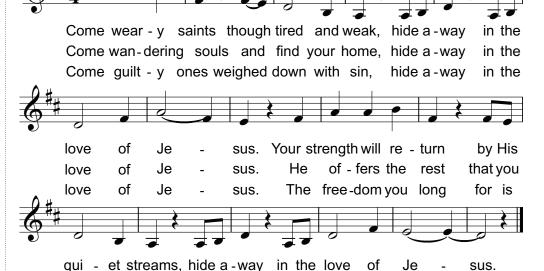
Him.

hide a -way



Confess your sins in church, and do not go to prayer with a guilty conscience. This is the way of

> from the Didache, 100 AD



hide a -way in the love

Hide Away in the Love of Jesus, Words and Music by Steve and Vikki Cook, 2008

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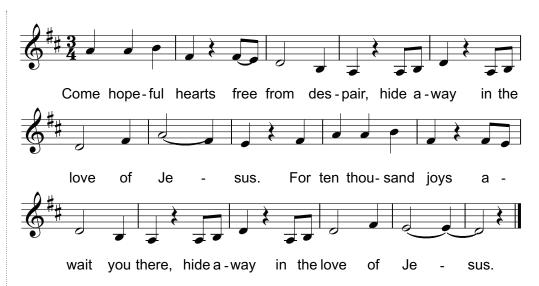
Silent time of confession

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found

in

Leader: For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.



#### **LESSONS FROM THE WORD**

Old Testament Lesson -Ezekiel 36.26-27, p.518 Gospel Lesson -Matthew 22.34-40, p.828

Leader: This is the word of the Lord. GOD **SPEAKS** 

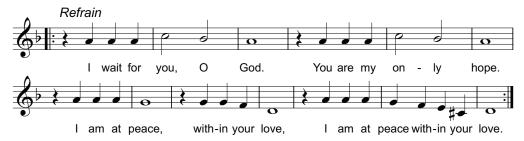
A11: Thanks be to God.



0 Lord my heart's not lift - ed up, my eyes not lof - ty be.. For I have calmed and stilled my soul, like a weaned child at pe - ace, Lord, give me ears to hear your word, o - pen my blind-ed ev es.



do not oc - cu - py my - self with thingstoo great for me.\_ and found my hopeand rest in God for all e - ter - ni ty. Lord, soothe my hard and bur-dened heart, and guide me to your ght.



Words: based on Psalm 131, by vdBijl & Baker, 2023, Music, attr. Martin Herbst, 1676. v3, vdBijl.

In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

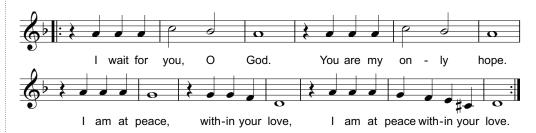
TO US

**Ephesians** 1:13-14 THE WORD Pastor Aaron Baker

The Spirit Sets Us Free, Romans 8:1-11, p.944

<sup>1</sup> There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.



#### **COME WITH PEACE**

Leader: The Lord be with you All: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord

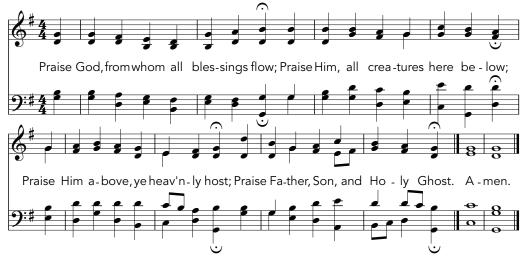
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise

Greet each other in the name of Christ.

# **COME WITH GENEROSITY**

We come to the Table with a generous heart and give back to God a portion of what he's already given us. Offer your resources back to God in support of the work of the church by placing your offering in the box on the back wall. You can also give online at covenantchicago.org/give, use the QR code on page 16, or text a donation amount to 84321.



Words: Thomas Ken, 1709, Music, German Psalter, 1561

COMMUNES WITH US God is the

GOD

host of this family meal. We come to his table unified in peace and offer a communal prayer of deep gratitude for all that He has done through his Son.

#### **COME WITH THANKSGIVING**

Leader: It is a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God of glory. We thank you for giving back to us what we have offered you. Accept these offerings of bread, wine and gifts to you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to the work of your kingdom.

All: In the beginning you laid the foundation of the earth and created us in your image. You set for us a Table in the Garden where we feasted together with you in peace.

Leader: But we turned from you, leaving sin and death to reign.

All: Still you loved us and sought us and invited us to feast with you again.

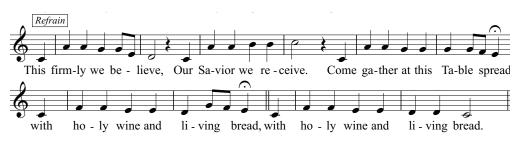
Leader: You sent us bread from heaven and broke the stone to quench our thirst. You gave us a land flowing with milk and honey.

You sent us the prophets and priests to call us back to you. And still we rebelled against you because of our sin.

All: Through Christ, and by his death, resurrection and ascension, you filled us with living bread and quenched our thirst with living water and opened a place for us at your Table to commune together in peace again.

Leader: Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim and sing:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.



#### **COME TO THE TABLE**

Please note that we serve both red wine and white grape juice. Gluten free bread is available in a separate dish.

# Receiving Communion

Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of baptized Christians. We invite all to partake of this sacrament who trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation.

# Silent prayers for reflection

\* written by members of the congregation

Prayer for those taking communion \*

Gracious Lord Jesus, how can it be that the loving, holy God of the universe would die for a sinner such as me? Without your selfless act of love, I would be destined to eternity without you. By eating this bread and drinking this cup, I acknowledge your atoning work of grace in my life. As this bread and wine are absorbed into my body for nourishment, may you likewise be absorbed into my soul to transform me into the person you envision be to be. Amen.

Prayer for those searching for truth \*

Jesus, you once encountered someone who was challenged in their faith; they told you "I believe, help my unbelief." I too find myself lacking sufficient faith to live as you desire. Please help me take a small step beyond my comfort zone and move toward you in faith. I rest in your loving kindness to me. Amen.

Prayer of belief \*

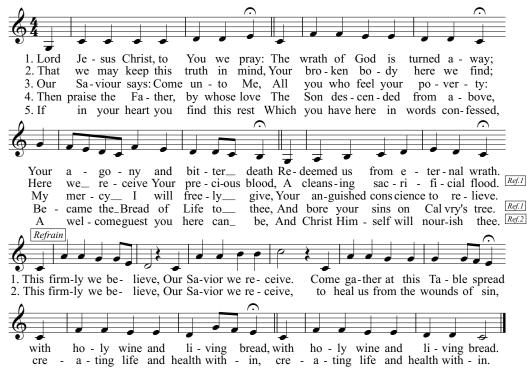
Jesus, I'm not sure what I believe to be true in life. I'm curious about the claims you've made and the works you performed. I am aware that I need someone/something more than just myself. My failings are ever before me. I now see that despite those failings, your love for me is greater than I ever imagined. So I turn to you now as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin \*

Lord Jesus, I am very aware that I have failed to live according to your teachings. I have assumed the throne of my life and chosen to pursue my own sources of happiness even when I knew it was in opposition to your best desires for me. I humbly come to you and acknowledge my poor choices. By eating this bread and drinking this cup, I once again ask for your forgiveness and grace. Amen.

#### **Song for Communion**

You are welcome to join in song:



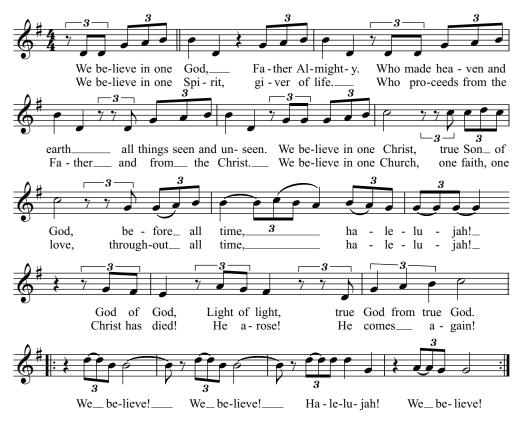
Lord Jesus Christ To You We Pray, Martin Luther, 1524; Thomas Tallis, 1560, addl. words and ref. by vdBijl, 2021

# **RESPOND TO THE TABLE**

Leader: Remembering your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming.

With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice dedicated to your service.

All: Great is this mystery of faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.



Based on the Nicene Creed, by Paul van der Bijl & Dave Jarvis, 2023, a song in triplets to exalt the Trinity.

IN COMMUNITY

Larissa Bossemeyer

Announcements, events and opportunities at Covenant during the coming weeks

#### **WITH JOY**

Leader: You have spoken to us in your Word and we have feasted with you at your Table.

By the power of your Spirit, you are remaking and renewing us.

All: We go with joy knowing you are ever with us and will nourish and sustain us.

GOD SENDS US

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them. Romans 12:4–6



We Will Feast, by Sandra McCracken, Westside Anglican Fellowship, Nashville, TN, 2015

WITH BLESSING

Pastor Aaron Baker

#### WELCOME TO COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### **TODAY AT COVENANT**

#### 1st Service, 9:00am

### 2nd service, 11:15am

• Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level

- Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level
- Children's Worship: preK-5th Grade, lower level

#### Common Ground, 10:15am

- Coffee and snacks in the Fellowship Hall and classrooms
- Nursery: Ages 0-4 (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: PreK-8th Grade (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: High School (Youth Room, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: From Gospel to Apocalypse (Fellowship Hall, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: In the Company of Jesus (Conference Room, Ed Building)
- Family Education: Beauty and Meaning (All Saints Room, Lower Level)

#### Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Dave Hoover, Holly and Steve Lehmann (9:00); Lynda Adamson, Tyler and Lamont Black (11:15)

Ushers: Andy Stapert, Mark Scheerhorn (9:00); Phil Koerner, Jon Skinner (11:15)

Musicians: Paul van der Bijl, guitar, vocals; Iva Riggs, vocals, Adriane Fink, piano; Liam van der Bijl, sound technician.

Large Print orders of worship and electronic hearing assistance devices are available in the back of the sanctuary. An usher can assist you with finding and using these items.

#### **COMMON GROUND CLASSES**

**Summer Common Ground:** From June 2 through 16, Covenant will offer two Common Ground classes, one which is designed to be family-friendly. During this time, there will be no Sunday School for children or youth. A nursery will be open for children 0-4. Beginning June 23, Covenant will be on summer break during Common Ground; no classes or childcare will be available. We invite you to join us between the services in the courtyard and Fellowship Hall for snacks and coffee.

**From Gospel to Apocalypse:** In this series, we'll look at the full New Testament canon and see how these texts relate to the broader story of Scripture. We'll also spend time each week in specific passages to help us better understand these books of Scripture. Class this week will be taught by Pastor Aaron and look at James, Jude and 1-2 Peter.

**Beauty and Meaning: Exploring Covenant's Sanctuary.** Join us for this 3-week class that will focus on different artistic and architectural elements of our sanctuary. This class will be run in two parallel sessions. In the All Saints Room, the staff will lead a session accessible to families with elementary aged students. A parent is required to attend with their child. In the Library, PD Young will lead a session aimed towards adults and older students. Each week, we'll end by exploring the sanctuary together. We'll cover themes including biblical scenes, architecture, and symbolism. This class starts today.

#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**June 30 Cookout:** Join us for our first all-church cookout of the summer. On June 30, we'll have one service at 10:15 followed by a potluck cookout in the courtyard and grassy lot. We need over 50 volunteers in order for the cookout to be a success. If you'd be willing to help with setup, food service or clean up, please contact Pastor Dan Adamson (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

#### **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Ushers Needed:** Ushers are the first people to greet people as they come to Covenant. They pass out the orders of worship, help people find the bathrooms and classrooms, and help at the end of service to clean up the sanctuary. Most ushers serve once a month. If you'd like to join our usher team, please contact Margret-Ann Natsis (margretann.natsis@gmail.com).

**Volunteer with Children's Ministry:** Covenant needs additional volunteers to help in our nurseries, children's worship classroom and Sunday school classrooms. We need volunteers during both services (9:00 and 11:15 am) and during Common Ground (10:15). To volunteer, contact Lynda Adamson (ladamson@covenantchicago.org).

**Common Ground Volunteers:** Covenant is looking for additional volunteers to help with coffee and snacks for Common Ground. Volunteers help with either setup (during the 9:00 am service) or clean up (during the 11:15 service), as well as helping during Common Ground to replenish coffee as needed. Most volunteers serve once a month. If you'd be interested, please contact Larissa Bossemeyer (lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org).

**Serve Breakfast at Breakthrough:** On the fourth Saturday of every month, Covenant provides breakfast for the Breakthrough women's shelter. If you are interested in volunteering to help purchase, prepare and serve food to shelter guests, you can reach out to breakthrough@covenantchicago.org for more information or sign up for upcoming dates on our website: https://covenantchicago.org/events/breakfast-at-breakthrough/.

**Gospel Justice Center Volunteers:** Covenant hosts a legal aid clinic on the second Saturday of every month and we're aiming to grow to serve more clients. In order to do that, we're looking for volunteers to serve in some of the non-legal roles. We could use one more volunteer to help on Saturday mornings to greet guests and support them as well as someone to take on some design work both for a social media account and a print brochure to help clients find our clinic. If you'd be interested in helping in either of those roles, please contact Linda Gehrs (Imgehrs@gmail.com). Most volunteers serve once every other month.

#### **NEWS AND UPDATES**

**One Service Sundays:** Mark your calendar for our one service Sundays this summer at 10:15. June 30, July 7, August 25 and September 1, we'll have one service at 10:15. There will be no Common Ground on these weeks. On June 30 and August 25, we'll have a cookout after the service.

**David Williams Memorial Service.** There will be a memorial service for David Williams at Covenant on June 27 at lpm. David served for 21 years as the third pastor of Covenant. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

**Parents of Diverse Learners.** If you have a child with a disability taking part in our children's ministry, we would like to try and find ways to meet your child's unique needs. One of our deacons, Kylene Young, has years of experience as a special education teacher and can work with you and our volunteers to tailor a plan. If you're interested in learning more, contact Ian (ian@covenantchicago.org) or Kylene (Kyleneyoung@gmail.com).

**Sermon Devotional Emails:** Twice a week, a team from Covenant sends sermon devotional emails that will help you reflect on and pray through the prior week's sermon text and Scripture lessons. Email devotional@covenantchicago.org to sign up.

**Do you know about the Deacons Fund?** If you are experiencing any kind of personal or financial hardship and would like some help, please contact our deacons (deacons@covenantchicago.org). Your email will go directly to the deacons, and they'll treat it with confidentiality. If you're able, now is a great time to contribute to the Deacons Fund to meet the needs of others in our congregation. You may contribute to the Deacons Fund by writing "Deacons Fund" in the memo of a check or by selecting the Deacons Fund option on Covenant's giving site.

**Meals Ministry:** The Meals Ministry cares for our community by providing occasional meals to individuals and families. If you have recently experienced health problems, have welcomed a new child into your family, or have suffered a loss, please visit covenantchicago.org/meals-ministry/ to request a meal. The Meals Ministry also seeks volunteers to cook and deliver meals, and you can sign up to volunteer through the website link. Questions? Contact meals@covenantchicago.org.

**Let Us Pray for You.** Covenant's staff meets to pray for the congregation throughout the week. We would be honored to pray for you. You can share prayer requests by writing them on the tear out portion at the back of the order of worship or by emailing Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Sermon Text Next Week: Romans 8:12-17

Giving QR code

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Aaron Baker Pastor, abaker@covenantchicago.org

Dan Adamson Associate Pastor, dadamson@covenantchicago.org

### **SUPPORT STAFF**

Larissa Bossemeyer Director of Ministries: lbossemeyer@ covenantchicago.org

Gene Pierson Director of Finance & Property: gpierson@ covenantchicago.org

Ian Troll Director of Children and Youth Ministries: ian@ covenantchicago.org

Paul van der Bijl Director of Worship and Music: pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org

# **SESSION**

Aaron Baker (Moderator), Dan Adamson, David Dillon, Dave Hoover, Brad Lewis, Steve Lehmann, Joshua Norton

Please direct correspondence for the Session to session@covenantchicago.org.

# **DIACONATE**

Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan Ellison, Phil Koerner, Joel Miller, Margret-Ann Natsis, Shane Rector, Jon Skinner, Deb Van Der Molen, Matt Ver Steeg, Kylene Young

# Treasurer: Ben Harvey

If you're in need or wish to speak with a deacon, you can email us at diaconate@covenantchicago.org.

#### WELCOME TO COVENANT

Please fill out this form, tear it out, and put it in one of the offering boxes at the back of the church.

circle one:
New to Covenant   Regular Attender   Member
Name:
Email:
Address:
Phone:
☐ ↑ This is new or updated information ↑
I am interested in:
☐ More information
☐ Small Groups
☐ Service Opportunities
☐ Membership
☐ Receiving the Email Letter
☐ Children and Youth Ministry
Other:
Prayer Requests:

# **Covenant Life**

Worship Together:

We are made to worship the Triune God, and our worship is always ordered around Jesus Christ and the forgiveness and grace he secured for us by his cross, resurrection and ascension. Gathering around this good news together on Sundays strengthens our appetites, imaginations and abilities to live as followers of Jesus.

Grow and Learn Together:

Learning about our faith and growing together in it forms us into human beings who are fully swept up into the work God is doing to reconcile all things to himself in Jesus. Learning is more than simply knowing; it is the internalization of truth that leads to mature thinking and acting.

a church, a city, and a world continually made new by the grace of Christ

2012 W. Dickens Chicago, IL 60647 773.486.9590

covenantchicago.org

